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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/645,676	08/20/2003	Ki Woong Moon	2060-3-65	8296
7590	01/25/2005		EXAMINER	LE, VU
JONATHAN Y. KANG, ESQ. LEE, HONG, DEGERMAN, KANG & SCHMADEKA 14th Floor 801 S. Figueroa Street Los Angeles, CA 90017-5554			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2613				
DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/645,676	MOON, KI WOONG	
	Examiner Vu Le	Art Unit 2613	

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 22 August 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 16-19 are objected to because of the following informalities:

These claims are made dependent on method claim 11, which should have been claim 15. Claim 11 is a method claim. Claims 16-19 are system claims. The error is believed inadvertent. Appropriate correction is required.

For prior art rejection, claims 16-19 are considered dependent on claim 15.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent; or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, *except* that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for the purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English.

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jozawa et al, US 6,785,331.

Re claim 1, Jozawa discloses a variable length coding method (figs. 6,12; col. 10, line 16 – col. 12, line 32) comprising:

comparing corresponding portions of a present picture and a previous picture received by a video encoder (fig. 12, "VOP TYPE" indicates whether the picture VOP is an intraframe or interframe coded picture type i.e. I, P or B coded VOP; the coded VOP

is derived from differential encoding (see fig. 1) which is essentially the process of comparing a present picture to a previous picture);

and performing coding by fixing a COD (coded macroblock indication) flag of the present picture at a certain value, in response to said corresponding portions being similar to each other (fig. 12, after determining VOP TYPE, a COD value is set to either a "1" or "0" dependent upon a macroblock (MB) type i.e. inter MB or intra MB).

Re claim 2, the method of claim 1, wherein said corresponding portions comprise at least one macroblock each. (In Jozawa, encoding the VOP is in macroblock level; see "List 4" in col. 10).

Re claim 3, the method of claim 1, wherein the certain value is approximately equal to "0". (See discussion in claim 1 above).

Re claims 4-5, the method of claim 1, further comprising: setting a MCBPC (macroblock type & coded block pattern for chrominance) flag equal to a first value. (See figs. 6, 12, "List 4" in col. 10 which sets the 1-bit flag for MCBPC; a value "1" is inherently expected).

Re claims 6-7, the method of claim 1, further comprising: setting a CBPY (coded block pattern for luminance) flag equal to a second value. (See figs. 6, 12, "List 4" in col. 10 which sets the 2-bit flag for CBPY; a value "11" is inherently expected).

Re claims 8-9, the method of claim 1, further comprising: setting a MVD (motion vector data) flag equal to a third value. (See figs. 6, 12, "List 4" in col. 10 which sets the 1-bit flag for MCSEL which is a motion vector data; a value "0" is inherently expected).

Claims 10-14 have been analyzed and rejected w/r to claims 1-9 above.

Claims 15-20 have been rejected w/r to claims 1-9 above. Jozawa et al also discloses a coding system (fig. 1) corresponding to the coding method of claims 1-9. In further regards to claim 20, the “first mode” would correspond to either “INTER” or “INTRA” coding mode. Jozawa et al further discloses determining whether a differential value of a QP is equal to a sixth value; and writing a DQUANT flag, in response to the differential value of the QP being unequal to the sixth value. (See fig. 6, i.e. “INTRA-Q” or “INTER-Q” and “DQUANT”; INTRA-Q or INTER-Q indicates coding mode using quantization value information. DQUANT is a flag set in accordance to INTRA-Q or INTER-Q coding mode).

Contact

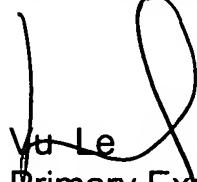
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vu Le whose telephone number is 703-308-6613. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 703-305-4856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature consisting of a vertical line and a loop, followed by the name "Vu Le".

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